

Appl. No. 09/674,691
Atty. Docket No. CM1764Q
Amtd. dated 17 October 2003
Reply to Office Action of 30 July 2003
Customer No. 27752

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A web material having
a longitudinal dimension and a transverse dimension substantially smaller than said longitudinal dimension
at least one longitudinal expansion means, said longitudinal expansion means comprising at least two transverse folds, said folds causing said web to have a folded configuration, said web being held in said folded configuration by a tearable expansion obstruction means, said tearable expansion obstruction means being selected from the group consisting of adhesive bonding, cohesive bonding, pressure bonding, friction bonding, autogenous bonding, mechanical fixation, ~~ultrasonic bonding~~ ~~heat bonding~~ and combinations thereof such that the Relative Expansion Tension Reduction is at least 50% when said web material is submitted to the Discontinuous Expansion Test
wherein said web is selected from ~~tissue webs~~, ~~non-woven webs~~ fibrous webs, films and foams and laminates thereof.
2. (Original) A web material according to Claim 1, characterized in that the Relative Expansion Tension Reduction is at least 75% when said web material is submitted to the Discontinuous Expansion Test.
3. (Original) A web material according to Claim 1, characterized in that the Relative Expansion Tension Reduction is at least 90% when said web material is submitted to the Discontinuous Expansion Test.
4. (Original) A web material according to Claim 1, characterized in that the expansion tension at the Discontinuous Expansion Threshold is larger than 1 Newton per 0.0254 meter and the expansion tension at the Discontinuous Expansion Point is smaller than 0.5 Newton per 0.0254 meter when said web material is submitted to the Discontinuous Expansion Test.
5. (Cancelled)
6. (Original) A web material according to Claim 1, characterized in that the expansion tension at the Discontinuous Expansion Threshold is larger than 1 Newton per 0.0254 meter and the expansion tension at the Discontinuous Expansion Point is smaller than 0.1 Newton per 0.0254 meter when said web material is submitted to the Discontinuous Expansion Test.
7. (Original) A web material according to Claim 1, characterized in that the relative elongation at the Tearing Point of said web material is at least 50% when said web material is submitted to the Discontinuous Expansion Test.

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8. (Original) A web material according to Claim 7, characterized in that the relative elongation at the Tearing Point of said web material is at least 75% when said web material is submitted to the Discontinuous Expansion Test.
9. (Original) A web material according to Claim 1, comprising a first region and a second region characterized in that said first region has a different basis weight than said second region.
10. (Original) A web material according to Claim 9, characterized in that said web material has a Relative Basis Weight Deviation of less than 10% when submitted to the Basis Weight Deviation test.
11. (Original) A web material according to Claim 9, characterized in that said web material has a Relative Basis Weight Deviation of less than 5% when submitted to the Basis Weight Deviation test.
12. (Original) A web material according to Claim 1, characterized in that said web material a contraction tension of less than 0.5 Newton per 0.0254 meter when said web material is submitted to the Contraction Force At Discontinuous Expansion Test.
13. (Original) A web material according to Claim 1, comprising at least one region characterized in that said region exhibits an monotonously increasing tensile force with increasing elongation when said region is submitted to the Expansion Tension Test.
14. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ A web material according to Claim 1, wherein said longitudinal expansion means comprises a transverse z-fold causing said folded configuration to comprise three layers and wherein said tearable expansion obstruction means comprises thermally bonding said layers along a longitudinal edge of said web.
15. (Withdrawn) A process for making a web material comprising the steps of
 - forming a web
 - stabilizing said web
 - incorporating longitudinal expansion means and tearable expansion obstruction means into said web.
16. (Previously Presented) A web material according to Claim 1, wherein said longitudinal expansion means is selected from the group consisting of a z-fold and an accordion fold.
17. (Previously Presented) A web material according to Claim 1, wherein said tearable expansion obstruction means is selected from the group consisting of edge bonding and

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partial direct bonding of hidden surface regions when said web is in said folded configuration.